

PsyOp: avoid hostility, win hearts

Story and photos by
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11th Public Affairs Detachment

KANDAHAR AIRFIELD, Afghanistan — When someone thinks of war, they think of weapons, famine and struggle. But in modern combat, manipulating the mind of the offense is beginning to play more and more of a role in defeating the enemy.

Psychological Operations are planned actions to convey certain information to influence an audience's emotions, motives, reasoning and behavior.

Used in war, it is a weapon to avoid hostile acts, said Staff Sgt. Matthew Baiza, 301st Psychological Operation Company, San Diego, Calif.

The U.S. Army Reserve's 301st PsyOp Co. plays that role here. They perform decep-

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An Afghan Military Force soldier passes leaflets to villagers of Goranda during Operation Vigilant Guardian. Psychological Operations not only distributes leaflets, but also radios and other items that may help inform Afghans of the importance of the Coalition Force's presence here, said Staff Sgt. Matthew Baiza, 301st Psychological Operation Company, San Diego, Calif.

New FES team, building Bagram and beyond

By Pfc. Christina Carde
11th Public Affairs Detachment

BAGRAM, Afghanistan — "To provide expert engineering advice and products to Combined Joint Task Force-180 in support of the war against terrorism, the health and welfare of coalition forces and the improvement of the Afghan infrastructure," is the new Forward Engineer Support Team's mission in Afghanistan.

Since their arrival April 19, the new Team A engineers from Fort Worth, Texas, have been tasked with designing numerous projects on Bagram and plan to take their expertise to the outskirts of the country.

"Our primary mission is to support CJTF-180 in designing any projects they have," said Capt. Dale Snider, Team A leader. "Our secondary mission to support all other Facility Engineer Teams with our designs and finally provide the same support to other services and coalition forces."

In the few weeks the team has been in country, they have been busy designing the new CJTF-180 headquarters, doing water and soil assessments and picking up where the previous FES left off.

"The main mission right now is the design of the new CJTF-180 headquarters, but we are also occupied with the plans for the new base sewage system the team before us began," said Snider.

Even though Snider and his team of engineers knew this deployment would offer many new challenges, they weren't aware of the amount of responsibility they would be given.

"This is the first time the members of my team and I have worked at corps level," said Snider. "We knew our job was going to be challenging but we thought our mission would involve more hands-on engineer work. We didn't know we would be doing the majority of the design. This is a lot more exciting."

With the excitement of having a higher level of responsibility also comes the challenge of being more versatile and having to learn new concepts quickly.

"In the States, I only had to worry about taking care of one project at a time," said Snider. "Here, there are numerous projects that require my attention all at once."

"Another challenge I have had to face with the new design

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World News (Compiled from CNN.com)



A man makes a call after seeing the Mother Liberty CME Church in Jackson, Tennessee.

Tornado hits eastern Missouri

DE SOTO, Mo. — For the second time in three days, Missouri came under attack from a tornado and this time a small town on the state's eastern edge bore the brunt of the damage it caused.

The twister struck "numerous buildings" in De Soto Tuesday night, police and sheriff's officials said, and caused the junior high school to collapse.

"It's pretty disastrous," said Adam Sitton of the Missouri State Highway Patrol. He did not know of any injuries at the junior high.

Jason Law, owner of J.P. Carson's Restaurant on North Main Street, said the storms came through town around 7 p.m. and were continuing two hours later. He said heavy rain caused about a foot of water to rush through Main Street like a river.

"We've been pretty much cut off since about 7:30," he said.

Law said a telephone pole with electrical lines had fallen onto the roof of a building in town, and trees were snapped. Large pieces of metal were impaled in the back of his restaurant, he said.

"There has been a tragedy in De Soto," said a dispatcher for the town's fire department, without giving any details.

De Soto, in Jefferson County and about 40 miles south of St. Louis in eastern Missouri, has a population of about 6,400.

Saddam's family took \$1 billion

WASHINGTON — About \$1 billion was taken from Iraq's Central Bank by Saddam Hussein and his family, just hours before the United States began bombing Iraq, the U.S.

State Department said Tuesday.

Spokesman Richard Boucher said the government doesn't know yet where the cash might have ended up, and U.S. agents are hunting down these and other "assets stolen by the regime."

"We do know from Treasury Department officials in Baghdad that approximately \$1 billion was taken from the Iraqi Central Bank by Saddam Hussein and his family just prior to the start of combat operations," Boucher told reporters.

"We'll actively follow up on all the leads," he said.

George Mullinax, a U.S. Treasury Department official in Iraq to oversee the rebuilding of the country's economy, said the withdrawal took place March 18. He said his main sources of information were Iraqi banking officials.

People who live near the Central Bank told CNN that they saw three or four trucks backed up to the bank then and that people appeared to be loading money onto the trucks.

Major part of Malvo confession can be used in trial, judge rules

FAIRFAX, Va. — The words of a teenage suspect in last year's sniper shootings may be used against him in his trial later this year, a judge ruled Tuesday.

The decision by Circuit Judge Jane Marum Roush allows most of an interrogation session last November that Virginia police had with Lee Boyd Malvo to be allowed into his trial, set to begin November 10.

Authorities said Malvo confessed to two of the fatal shootings, including the October 14 killing of FBI analyst Linda Franklin outside a Home Depot store in Falls Church, Va., that he is to be tried for first.

During last year's interrogation, Malvo laughed and pointed to his head when describing the shooting of Franklin, police testified.

"Having considered the totality of the circumstances surrounding the police interrogation of Malvo on November 7, I conclude that his statement was made voluntarily," Judge Roush wrote Tuesday in a 23-

page letter to defense attorneys and the prosecutor in the case.

Malvo, 18, is being held at the Fairfax County, Va., jail on a capital murder charge in the shooting of Franklin at a parking lot outside a Falls Church, Va., store.

Malvo and John Allen Muhammad, 42, have been linked to 20 shootings, including 13 deaths, in Virginia, Maryland, Alabama, Georgia, Louisiana and the Washington, D.C. area.

Byrd blasts Bush for 'showmanship' with carrier speech

WASHINGTON — Blasting President Bush's "flamboyant showmanship," the Senate's senior Democrat on Tuesday assailed the president for his speech aboard an aircraft carrier last week in which he declared an end to major combat in Iraq.

"President Bush's address to the American people announcing combat victory in Iraq deserved to be marked with solemnity, not extravagance; with gratitude to God, not self-congratulatory gestures," Sen. Robert Byrd, D- West Virginia, said in a sharply worded speech delivered on the Senate floor. "American blood has been shed on foreign soil in defense of the president's policies. This is not some made-for-TV backdrop for a campaign commercial."

Bush's prime time address to the nation Thursday was carried live on television. The White House also won extensive coverage of the buildup to the speech with the president's dramatic arrival on the USS Abraham Lincoln. Arriving by a Navy jet, he made a tailhook landing on the carrier.

Last week, the White House had said that such a landing was necessary because the carrier would have been too far out for a helicopter landing. In fact, the carrier was close enough to the California coast for a helicopter landing.

"The ship did make much faster progress than anticipated," White House Press Secretary Ari Fleischer said Tuesday, when asked about the matter. Still, he said the president "wanted to arrive on it in a manner that would allow him to see an arrival on a carrier the same way pilots got to see an arrival on a carrier."



CA soldiers assess Kabul Zoo

Capt. Richard Parsons, Lt. Col. Robert Sindler and Sgt. Nicole Perrault, from Coalition Joint Civil-Military Operations Task Force, talked with Eric Mouillefarine, advisor to the Mayor of Kabul, April 27 about the prospect of improving the conditions of the zoo. They toured the zoo and conducted an assessment to find out what can be done and how to plan for and accept monetary donations.

The Zoo is managed by the Municipality of Kabul and is the only known zoo in Afghanistan. It is open to the public for the purpose of education and entertainment at a cost of 5 Afghani per person. There are approximately 29 kinds of animals housed at the zoo and it employs approximately 16 people.

Parsons and Sindler are trained veterinarians and have taken an interest in trying to improve the quality of the zoo. They met with Sir Agha Omar, the director of the zoo, who expressed a desire to improve



living conditions for the animals and increase patronage.

According to Sindler's after action report, "the animals appeared reasonably healthy and well fed." The report stated that the cages and signage on cages was not in keeping with modern standards of zoological parks, but by Afghan country standards the zoo appeared fairly well maintained.

The director of the zoo stated that ISAF engineers had come out at one time but that he was not aware of any assessment by Coalition engineers. Sindler asked the director about any funding from the United States, since Parsons thought that a zoological society in the U.S. had offered \$500,000 for the Kabul Zoo if a plan could be agreed upon about how the money should be spent.

The Director replied that he was unaware of any such funds and he thanked the soldiers for having an interest in their zoo. (Photos by U.S. Marine Corps Staff Sgt. Amy L. Forsythe, CJCMOTF-PAO.)

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tion operations; clear military supply routes, surrender appeals and disseminate information.

The three-person tactical PsyOp team that recently returned from their fourth operation since their arrival in February, Operation Carpathian Lightning, also works with Special Forces, Rangers and Navy SEALs to assist in seizures.

"I learn something new every mission. We seem to have more and more of a role every time," said Army Reserve Spc. Ted Johnson, 301st PsyOp Co.

Not only do they take on direct functions but also indirect ones by working as a force multiplier.

"We diffuse hostile situations. Other means are taken. Without shooting guns and rockets, military force can be much more effective," said Staff Sgt. Matthew Baiza, 301st PsyOp.

The team is present on various operations to prevent unnecessary harm by working with locals to cooperate.

During Operation Carpathian Lightning, the team handed out leaflets that depicted pictures of an Afghan and American flag with a dove. It read in the local tongue to not fight with the coalition forces, which were there to help them.

"We want to win minds and hearts. If we have people work with us, they will help us," said Baiza.

They do this by blending in with the population. An Afghan's



During Operation Vigilant Guardian, a psychological operations soldier holds leaflets to be handed out in the village of Goranda, which is about 15 kilometers from the Pakistan border. The leaflets serve as a message to the Afghan that the Coalition forces are here to help them, not harm them.

culture is to have facial hair and appear a little scruffy, said Baiza. It is easier to talk with the locals if you look like them, he said. PsyOp missions help avoid death by winning hearts and avoiding hostility in modern warfare.

"PsyOp is becoming more effectively applied to missions. They need us," said Spc. Al Cruz, 301st PsyOp.

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aspect of the mission, is learning what the rest of my team does," Snider added. "I've had the chance to learn a little mechanical engineering, imagery and other things I wasn't required to know before. This has given me a new found respect for the intelligence and work ethic of my team."

Aside from the new challenges and added responsibility, Snider and his team are happy to be here and excited to try new things.

"I was here during the first rotation when there was hardly anything on Bagram," said Francisco Gomez, mechanical engineer. "A lot has improved since I was here last and I am anxious to help further improve things on Bagram."

Even though the FESTA is only scheduled to be in country until July, they said they are determined use their design knowledge in the time they have to help Forward Operating Bases throughout the country improve their quality of life.

"In about two weeks I am going to sit down with some FETs from Kabul and K2 and find out what it is they need for their bases, and what we can do to help" said Snider. "Eventually, I want to get the members of my team to the remote FOBs throughout Afghanistan to do assessments and find out what we can do to make life easier for them."



Photo by Spc. Debralee P. Crankshaw

Raising the roof...

Soldiers, an airman and a Marine work together to put up a clamshell for the new gym tent. Two clamshells will be raised, one for the gym and another for the basketball court. The clamshells should be up by next week and the gym is scheduled to be open within the next three weeks.

Bagram Air Base MWR presents

1530Z at the MWR building: "The MatchMaker." When election campaigner Marcy Tizard arrives in Ballinagra Ireland to track down the ancestral roots of U.S. Senator John McGlory, romance is the last thing on her mind. But this village is in the middle of its annual matchmaking festival, and the locals bet she'll be fixed up in no time.

Tomorrow's movie will be "Femme Fatale."



Local weather

TWO-DAY REGIONAL WEATHER FORECAST:

	Today	Thursday
Bagram:	Partly cloudy H: 81F L: 43F	Partly cloudy H: 84F L: 50F
Kandahar:	Dusty H: 86F L: 64F	Dusty H: 90F L: 59F
Kabul:	Mostly cloudy H: 81F L: 43F	Partly cloudy H: 82F L: 48F
Uzbekistan:	Partly cloudy H: 84F L: 45F	Partly cloudy H: 86F L: 44F

Weather forecast courtesy of the Bagram Combat Weather Team

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Coalition Sports Zone

(Compiled from *ESPN.com*)

Billups forced to leave game with ankle injury

AUBURN HILLS, Mich. — The Detroit Pistons didn't want to get off to another bad start.

Richard Hamilton scored 25 points as top-seeded Detroit beat the fourth-seeded Philadelphia 76ers 98-87 Tuesday night in Game 1 of the Eastern Conference semi-finals.

The Pistons lost the opening game of the playoffs to Orlando and was forced to rally to be just the seventh team in NBA history to win a series after trailing 3-1.

Allen Iverson, who led the league in scoring during the first round, had 27 points on 8-of-21 shooting for the 76ers. He averaged 34.8 points in the first round against Charlotte.

Game 2 is Thursday night in Detroit.

Detroit was in control for much of the game against the Sixers, but it was never comfortable.

That was especially true when Chauncey Billups left the game with a sprained left ankle after his 24th point gave the Pistons a 77-70 lead with about 10 minutes left.

Billups scored 77 points in the final two games of the first-round series against the Magic.

The Sixers scored consecutive baskets to pull within three — the closest they had been since early in the second quarter — but Detroit rookie Mehmet Okur scored six straight points to give the



Allen Iverson had 27 points, but the 76ers lost Game 1.

Pistons the cushion they needed.

Philadelphia could not get closer than seven points as the Pistons made just enough free throws to seal the win.

The Pistons have not trailed in the second half of any of their last four games.

Detroit's bench, which led the league with 34.1 points a game during the regular season, was a force.

Okur scored a playoff-high 16 while Tayshaun Prince and Corliss Williamson each had eight. Chucky Atkins, who replaced Billups, scored a basket for the first time since Game 5 against the Magic. Detroit starter Cliff Robinson scored 11.

Philadelphia's Derrick Coleman scored a playoff-high 21 points and reserve Greg Buckner added 11.

The Sixers made most of their shots in the first half, but their turnovers were costly.

Philadelphia made 56.3 percent of its shots, to Detroit's 37.5 percent, but trailed 24-21 after the first quarter.

The Pistons converted eight turnovers into eight points.

Early in the second quarter, after Philadelphia took its second lead, Detroit scored nine straight points to take a 33-25 lead.

At halftime, the Sixers were still making more than half their shots, but trailed 49-40 because the Pistons turned 13 turnovers into 16 points.

Detroit went ahead 63-50 — its largest lead — midway through the third quarter, but began the fourth up just 73-66.



2002 NBA standings

Eastern Conference

Atlantic

(2) New Jersey	49-33
(6) Boston	44-38
(4) Philadelphia	48-34
(8) Orlando	42-40
Washington	37-45

Central

(3) Indiana	48-34
(1) Detroit	50-32
(5) New Orleans	47-35
(7) Milwaukee	42-40
Atlanta	35-47

Western Conference

Midwest

(3) Dallas	60-22
(1) San Antonio	60-20
(7) Utah	47-35
Houston	43-39
(4) Minnesota	51-31

Pacific

(2) Sacramento	59-23
(8) Phoenix	44-38
(6) Portland	50-32
Seattle	40-42
(5) L.A. Lakers	50-32



Stojakovic, Webber power Kings to easy win

DALLAS — A long layoff wasn't a problem for the Sacramento Kings. Neither were the Dallas Mavericks.

Peja Stojakovic had 26 points and nine rebounds and Chris Webber had 24 points, nine rebounds and six assists as the Kings pounded the Mavericks 124-113 Tuesday night in the opener of the Western Conference semifinal.

Sacramento was playing for the first time since eliminating Utah in five games last Wednesday.

The Kings proved they weren't rusty by going on 15-2 run midway through the first quarter, building a 12-point lead that was hardly challenged.

Dallas was able to trim it to six late in the second quarter, finally giving the game the electricity expected from two of the league's three highest-scoring teams.

But Sacramento always had more answers. The Kings got the lead back to 12 by halftime and stretched it to 20 less than four minutes into the third quarter, drawing boos from a crowd of 20,525.

Sacramento's lead peaked at 28 late in the third quarter. The final margin was the closest Dallas got in the second half.

Game 2 is Thursday night, and the Mavericks will have to find some answers fast. They have lost eight of 10 to the Kings since last year's playoffs, when Sacramento won in five games, also in the second round.

Lakers forward will not play in Game 2

LOS ANGELES — Los Angeles Lakers forward Devean George will sit out Game 2 of the Western Conference semifinals, and his status for the rest of the series against San Antonio is in question because of a sprained left ankle.

George, who has gained additional playing time for Los Angeles with Rick Fox out because of a torn foot tendon, was injured in the fourth quarter of Monday night's 87-82 loss to San Antonio.

X-rays on the ankle were negative.

George said Tuesday that the ankle was still sore, but the swelling was down, giving him hope he might be able to play this postseason.

"I'm able to put a little pressure on it, but I'll stay on crutches for another day," George said Tuesday. "If I can continue to progress, I could be back before the series is over."

Kobe Bryant said the injury bug isn't anything the Lakers can't deal with.

"Every position in the triangle (offense) is interchangeable, so we'll be more than adept at moving Robert (Horry) to the three spot," said Bryant, who had 37 points in Game 1. "We'll get Devean back shortly, so for the time being, we'll do our best and move on without him."

O'Neal said the loss of George will be an opportunity for Stanislav Medvedenko, who didn't play at all in Game 1.

"I think Slava's going to be a big help — he can score, he can play," said O'Neal, who had 24 points and 21 rebounds before fouling out late in the game. "We don't need any offensive help, but he's that type of player. He's going to have to step up."

Shaq, Kobe, McGrady, Garnett also on first team



Tim Duncan

NEW YORK — Two-time MVP Tim Duncan made the All-NBA team Tuesday, just the sixth player in league history to receive that honor in each of his first six seasons.

Also on the All-NBA first team were Los Angeles Lakers teammates Kobe Bryant and Shaquille O'Neal, the Orlando Magic's Tracy McGrady and the Minnesota Timberwolves'

Kevin Garnett.

Bryant and O'Neal were the first teammates picked in consecutive seasons since Utah's Karl Malone and John Stockton in 1993-94 and 1994-95.

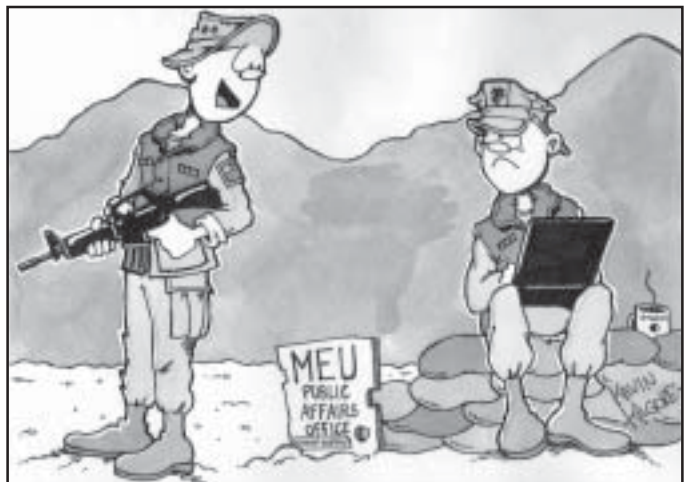
Duncan averaged 23.3 points and 12.9 rebounds, helping the San Antonio Spurs tie for the NBA's best record.

The other players with six straight All-NBA appearances to start their careers were Hall of Famers Elgin Baylor, Larry Bird, George Mikan, Bob Pettit and Oscar Robertson.

Picked for the second team were Dallas' Dirk Nowitzki, Sacramento's Chris Webber, Detroit's Ben Wallace, New Jersey's Jason Kidd, and Philadelphia's Allen Iverson.

The third team: Boston's Paul Pierce, New Orleans' Jamal Mashburn, Indiana's Jermaine O'Neal, Phoenix's Stephon Marbury, and Dallas' Steve Nash.

"Sorry, can't talk to the press ... and that five bucks I owe you, no comment."



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By Kevin Kilgore

Laugh Support